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E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: ESTONIA PREFERS SLOVENIA OVER BOSNIA IN UNHRC

REF: STATE 21984

(U) On February 26, we delivered reftel points to Kirke Kraav, MFA Director for International Organizations and Cooperation, to support Bosnia's candidacy for the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC). Kraav emphasized that Estonia's priority is ensuring that Belarus is not elected to the UNHRC. Kraav said that Estonia will support fellow EU-member Slovenia for membership. As Slovenia will assume the EU Presidency in 2008, its membership on the the Council presents an opportunity to raise the UNHRC's profile. Kraav added that Estonia considers Bosnia a strong candidate, and Estonia has no objections to Bosnia's election. If there is a second round of voting between Bosnia and Belarus, without question Estonia will support Bosnia.

GOLDSTEIN